

**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. 33**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**214th LEGISLATURE**

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PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ROBERT W. SINGER**

**District 30 (Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean)**

**Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

**District 21 (Essex, Morris, Somerset and Union)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators A.R.Bucco and Scutari**

**SYNOPSIS**

Memorializes President and Congress to provide residents of U.S. Territories same opportunity to participate in health insurance exchanges as residents of the states.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1   **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** memorializing the President and  
2       Congress of the United States to permit residents of the United  
3       States territories to participate in health insurance exchanges.  
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5   **WHEREAS**, Both the United States Senate and House of  
6       Representatives are considering health care reform legislation that  
7       will make health care coverage more affordable and accessible to  
8       all citizens of the United States; and

9   **WHEREAS**, The proposed legislation pending in the Senate differs  
10      somewhat in scope from that of the House of Representatives, but  
11      the legislation in both the Senate and House of Representative  
12      includes provisions to establish one or more health insurance  
13      exchanges to facilitate the offering and purchase of health insurance  
14      coverage; and

15   **WHEREAS**, While it is clear that residents in the 50 states will have the  
16      opportunity to participate in health insurance exchanges, it is not  
17      clear or certain that such participation will be afforded to the  
18      residents of the United States Territories, such as Puerto Rico,  
19      Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands;  
20      and

21   **WHEREAS**, The residents of the Territories are United States citizens,  
22      but unless they are explicitly given the same opportunity to  
23      participate in health insurance exchanges as provided to the  
24      residents of the 50 states, they will be subject to discriminatory  
25      treatment under the pending federal health care reform and their  
26      opportunities to obtain health care coverage will be unnecessarily  
27      limited; now, therefore,

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29       **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the*  
30       *General Assembly concurring):*

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32       1. The President and Congress of the United States are  
33       respectfully memorialized to ensure that residents of the United  
34       States Territories are afforded the same opportunity to participate in  
35       any health insurance exchanges established as part of national  
36       health care reform as are residents of the 50 states.  
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39       2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the  
40       President of the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly  
41       and attested by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the  
42       General Assembly, shall be transmitted to the President and Vice-  
43       President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of  
44       the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the  
45       United States House of Representatives, and every member of  
      Congress elected from this State.

1 STATEMENT

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3 This concurrent resolution memorializes the President and  
4 Congress to ensure that residents of the United States Territories are  
5 afforded the same opportunity to participate in any health insurance  
6 exchanges established as part of national health care reform as are  
7 residents of the 50 states.

8 Residents of the United States Territories, such as Puerto Rico,  
9 Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands,  
10 are United States citizens, but unless they are given the same  
11 opportunity to participate in health insurance exchanges, they will  
12 be subject to discriminatory treatment under the pending federal  
13 health care reform and their opportunities to obtain health care  
14 coverage will be unnecessarily limited.